 The TempestandHag-Seed

The conversation begins

In pairs or small groups, find 2-3 examples of intertextuality from Atwood’s Hag-Seed so that we can begin to piece together how these texts engage in a literary ‘conversation’, and what about. Focus your search of the opening 50-pages of the novel. Use the following definitions of intertextuality and its different ‘codes’ in order to refine your judgements about each example:

Rob Pope distinguishes between three types of intertextuality:

* explicit intertextuality, alluding specifically to another text through quotation or reference
* implied intertextuality, where the allusion is more indirect may occur through such commonalities as genre or style
* inferred intertextuality referring to the texts drawn on by the actual responder and will likely include texts that had not even existed when the text was composed.

| Hag-Seed  Locate the example | The Tempest  Comment on how the ‘Hag-Seed; example ‘converses’ with Shakespeare’s ‘the Tempest’. |
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| “They’d been on the verge of rehearsals when Tony had first shown his hand. Twelve years later Felix can still recall every syllable of the encounter.”  Chapter 3, ‘Usurper’ | Appropriates Prospero’s revenge plot and the circumstances of his banishment  “Tony” as ‘Antonio’ – The “usurper”  Just as Shakespeare’s play does, Felix’ storyline is centred around his unjust treatment and coming revenge |

What other conversation points’ can you locate and unpack?